

## Message Text

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

PAGE 01 SEOUL 05586 280906Z  
ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 EA-10 ISO-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 ICA-11  
TRSE-00 SOE-02 DOE-15 CIAE-00 COME-00 SSO-00  
INRE-00 /047 W  
-----062692 280923Z /20  
O 280845Z JUN 78  
FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL  
TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 1945

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SEOUL 5586

E.O. 11652: N/A  
TAGS: ETRD, KS, US  
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR EXPORT LICENSE FOR IBM COMPUTER

REF: SEOUL 3749

1. IBM RESIDENT REP CALLED ECON COUNSELOR TODAY TO SAY HE WAS VERY CONCERNED THAT IBM WOULD LOSE REFERENCED SALE. MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (MOHA) WAS ACCUSING IBM OF FAILING TO TRY TO GET USG APPROVAL. INDEED, MOHA SAID, IBM COULD NOT EVEN SAY WHAT WAS STATUS OF PROJECT AND WHEN DECISION WOULD BE MADE.

2. WE UNDERSTAND THE PROBLEM IS THAT VITAL STATISTICS KEPT ON THE COMPUTER ON ALL ADULTS (OVER 18) INCLUDES "CRIMINAL HISTROY" WHICH RAISES HUMAN RIGHTS QUESTIONS. HOWEVER, IBM STATES THAT THAT DESCRIPTION IS TOO GENERAL TO BE CORRECT. IN FACT, WHAT IS KEPT IS A RECORD OF CRIMINAL CONVICTIONS RESULTING IN A PRISON SENTENCE. THIS IS THE TYPE OF DATA MOHA MUST CERTIFY TO THE U.S. EMBASSY IF, FOR EXAMPLE, A KOREAN WISHES A VISA TO GO TO THE U.S. HENCE, WE DO NOT SEE HUMAN RIGHTS ISSUE IS ENGAGED, SINCE MOHA IS KEEPING RECORDS ON VITAL STATISTICS WHICH IS A NON-POLICE FUNTION.

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3. IBM HAS RAISED A QUESTION ABOUT TWO OTHER COMUPTERS, A 370/188 AND A 30/32 FOR THE KOREAN INSTITUTE OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY. APPLICATION FOR APPROVAL OF THE FORMER WAS FILED IN LATE FEBRUARY AND THE LATTER ON JANUARY 17. THE FORMER WOULD BE BROUGHT IN TO COVER UNTIL THE LATTER COULD BE IMPORTED IN DECEMBER AND AFTER A MONTH OVERLAP WOULD BE RE-EXPORTED.

4. TIME LAPSES INVOLVED AND LACK OF ANY EXPLANATION  
THREATENS TO CAUSE CANCELLATIONS AND TO DIRECT ROKG PROCURE-  
MENT TO NON-U.S. SOURCES FOR FUTURE SALES. REQUEST STATUS  
REPORT ASAP.  
STERN

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** EXPORT LICENSES, COMPUTERS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 jun 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 01 jan 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978SEOUL05586  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780267-0334  
**Format:** TEL  
**From:** SEOUL  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1978/newtext/t19780611/aaaaajmj.tel  
**Line Count:** 68  
**Litigation Code IDs:**  
**Litigation Codes:**  
**Litigation History:**  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Message ID:** 75bcc97d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 78 SEOUL 3749  
**Retention:** 0  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 05 may 2005  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Release Date:** N/A  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**SAS ID:** 2171843  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** REQUEST FOR EXPORT LICENSE FOR IBM COMPUTER  
**TAGS:** ETRD, KS, US, IBM  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**vdkgvwkey:** odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS\_Docs/75bcc97d-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc  
**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
EO Systematic Review  
20 Mar 2014  
**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014